GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:521
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
PER CAPITA INCOME
MANSINH PATEL

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita income in rural areas in comparison to urban areas;

(b) whether the difference in per capita income between these two areas has been increasing; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to minimize this difference?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a): The estimates of rural-urban incomes in terms of per capita net domestic product (NDP), are compiled by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) on the basis of work-force estimates available from the quinquennial surveys on employment and unemployment conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) and the Population Census. Since these estimates are available only once in 5/10 years and form the basis for the introduction of a new series of national accounts statistics (NAS), the rural-urban estimates of per capita NDP are also presented in the NAS only for the base year. The latest available estimates on workforce from NSSO relate to 1993-94 (50th round) and using this data estimates of rural-urban per capita NDP have been compiled for the year 1993-94. For the years 1970-71, 1980-81 and 1993-94, these are as follows :

Per Capita Net Domestic Product (Rs./per year at current prices)

	1970-71	1980-81	1993-94
1. Rural	529	1245	5783
2. Urban	1294	2888	13525
3. Urban-Rural Disparity (2)/(1)	2.45	2.32	2.34

(b): The disparity in per capita income between urban and rural areas at current prices had shown a decline from 2.45 times in 1970-71 to 2.32 times in 1980-81. However, the corresponding ratio in the estimates for 1993-94 has slightly risen to 2.34.

(c): The reduction in urban-rural disparities in income/consumption is targeted to be achieved through a greater focus on agriculture and other rural activities. One of the important objectives of the Ninth Plan is to give priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to provide adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty.